

NANFA Golden Anniversary Meeting Field Trips

The field trip schedule is still a work in progress and updates will be published in the spring issue.



Root and Zumbro river watersheds and area county seats.

Very often at past meetings, the same streams were visited over two days. This gives participants who have conflicts on choosing between two trips the opportunity to cover more territory and see more species. Field trips will visit several locations in the Root and Zumbro river watersheds (see map above). If time permits and there is sufficient interest, additional trips may be offered the day before or day after the meeting's scheduled events. These two watersheds are the most diverse in Minnesota. Both provide habitat for many colorful and rare species. Highlights include Southern Redbelly and Redside dace, Ozark and Suckermouth minnows, Redfin and Carmine shiners, Gravel Chubs, and Banded and Rainbow darters. **Important note:** any listed species captured may be briefly viewed in photo tanks, but must be released at the site.



Southern Redbelly Dace, Carmine Shiner, Banded Darter, and Rainbow Darter (photos – Konrad Schmidt)

One catch and release trip is also planned for the Mississippi River separately from the all-day field trips. However, regulations in both Minnesota and Wisconsin prohibit keeping live fish because of invasive species present in the river. Captured fishes can be temporarily held in small aquariums and photographed before release. This trip should encounter many smaller species found in large river species such as Pugnose Minnow, Pirate Perch, Warmouth, and Mud Darter.



Pugnose Minnow, Pirate Perch, Warmouth, and Mud Darter (photos- Konrad Schmidt)